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Продовольственная и
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Organización
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para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

REGIONAL COMMISSION FOR FISHERIES

Fifth meeting of the Working Group on Fisheries Management

Tehran, Iran (Islamic Republic of), 9-12 October 2011

RECONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSAL BY THE SULTANATE OF OMAN ON IUU FISHING IN THE RECOFI REGION: ESTABLISHMENT OF A DATABASE OF VIOLATIONS

BACKGROUND

1. The steps recommended in relation to the development of a record of IUU fishing violations in the RECOFI region during the Fourth meeting of the WGF5 held in Muscat, Oman, 3-5 October 2010 have been considered in the Sixth Session of RECOFI held in Rome, 10-12 May, 2011. As stated in paragraph 36 of the report: “*the Commission agreed to an alternative proposal by the Sultanate of Oman that i) the matter be revised at the next WGF5 meeting that is scheduled in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran, 9-12 October 2011, ii) the concept for the study be modified to incorporate, as a first step, preliminary assessments by the Members of the extent of IUU fishing in their respective national jurisdiction, and iii) a framework for future work related to IUU fishing, and how it should be addressed, should be elaborated for consideration and adoption by the Commission*” .

CONTENT OF THE REVISED PROPOSAL

2. Following the agreement reached at the Commission meeting, Sultanate of Oman would like to submit the revised proposal that includes the following elements to the WGF5 meeting for review and consideration:

- a preliminary assessment (prior to the consideration of the steps proposed in the initial proposal) by the Members of the extent of IUU fishing in their respective national jurisdiction. The assessment could be initiated (as a starting point) by evaluating the outcomes of the FAO/RECOFI Regional Workshop to combat IUU Fishing, Muscat, Oman, 30 March-2 April, 2009; and
- based on the assessed outcomes the Working Group (WGF5) should develop an appropriate framework to addressing IUU fishing in the region. To develop a regional framework it is suggested that WGF5 should consider 1) the agreed steps stated in the Fourth meeting of the WGF5 held in Muscat, Oman, 3-5 October 2010 in addressing the issue; and 2) similar framework followed by other RFMOs so that efficiency and consistency could be maintained.

SUGGESTED ACTION BY THE WORKING GROUP

3. The Working Group is invited to:
 - review the revised proposal along with the actions stated above and provide recommendations to the Committee for appropriate actions and final decisions to address IUU fishing.